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ABSTRACT

This survey attempted to measure student involvement in intramural sports and related interests. A three-part questionnaire dealing with personal information, intramural sports, and related sports interests was completed by 1,159 Iowa State University students. The data indicated the following: (a) most students surveyed either participated in intramural programs or wanted to; (b) team sports most often selected were sports the respondents had participated in, but more leisure-time recreational sports were indicated as sports they wanted to play; (c) most respondents participated in the intramural program at least once a year and usually once a week; (d) major reasons for not participating were conflicts with class, study, or work; (e) most students either participated in or wanted to participate in coeducational recreation sports; (f) respondents obtained intramural sports information from student newspapers, intramural managers, posters, and word-of-mouth; (g) financial support came from physical education budgets or a combination of this budget with student fees; (h) students participating in intramurals supported intercollegiate athletics; and (i) students indicated high involvement in related sports interests through television and newspaper coverage. (A copy of the questionnaire and tables indicating statistical results of the survey are included.) (JS)

ED107611

SURVEY OF IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CONCERNING
INTRAMURAL SPORTS AND RELATED SPORTS INTERESTS

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SP 009 234

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this survey was to sample a portion of the Iowa State University student population concerning involvement in intramural sports and related sports interests. The questionnaire method of collecting feedback from students concerning intramurals is important because it is the only time non-participants have input in the program. The questionnaire also allows for the collection of more in-depth information from our intramural participants. A portion of the survey results can be related to intramural participation records and also to the operation of the intramural program in general.

PROCEDURE

A two-page questionnaire was constructed following a general model of a similar type survey completed at the University of Minnesota (1). The questionnaire consisted of three parts: (1) personal information, (2) intramural sports, and (3) related sports interests. The survey was randomly distributed to 1159 Iowa State University students during winter quarter registration and early in winter quarter by an Intramural's Organization Physical Education class. The intramurals class divided up the campus on the basis of living accommodations and distributed the questionnaires. The questionnaires were collected by the class and returned by class members. The results were compiled by key punching the information on cards for computer print-out. A copy of the questionnaire is attached at the end of this report.

RESULTS

The questionnaire was completed by 1159 Iowa State University students. These included 614 men and 529 women. The breakdown of students by classes was as follows: 311 freshmen, 287 sophomores, 279 juniors, 225 seniors and 42 graduate students. This class breakdown was representative of the 1974-75 enrollment pattern as was the male-female count.

The data are listed in tabular form. Each question was broken down in response by male, female, and total. (The male + female total does not equal the total column as some subjects (16) did not indicate their sex.) A zero column in each question response section indicated the number of respondents who did not respond to that particular question. The percentages calculated in the response section were determined with the zeroes included in the total.

Table 1

Question 1: Have you ever participated in organized (team/individual-dual) intramural sports?

Responses:

	Men		Women		Totals	
	N ₁	%	N ₂	%	N	%
yes	475	77.4	325	61.4	807	69.6
no, would like to	78	12.7	101	19.1	183	15.8
no interest	59	9.6	95	18.0	154	13.3
0					15	

Table 2

Question 2: Please circle the intramural sports you have played (list included all sports offered by ISU IM sports program).

The following sports were selected most often by respondents:

	Men		Women		Total		O
	Yes N ₁	No N ₁	Yes N ₂	No N ₂	Yes N	No N	
Basketball	253	238	114	232	371	473	315
Bowling	150	341	56	290	207	637	
Ice Hockey	70	421	9	337	79	765	
Soccer	84	407	4	342	88	756	
Softball	226	265	104	282	331	513	
Tennis	48	443	30	316	79	765	
Touch Football	324	167	127	219	455	389	
Volleyball	238	253	215	131	453	391	
Water Polo	85	406	7	339	93	751	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
	41.2	38.8	21.6	43.9	32.0	40.8	
	24.4	55.5	10.6	54.8	17.9	55.0	
	11.4	68.6	1.7	63.7	6.8	66.0	
	13.7	66.3	0.8	64.7	7.6	65.0	
	36.8	43.2	19.7	53.3	28.6	44.3	
	7.8	72.1	5.7	59.7	6.8	66.0	
	52.8	27.2	24.0	41.4	39.3	33.6	
	38.8	41.2	40.6	24.8	39.1	33.7	
	13.8	66.1	1.3	64.1	8.0	64.8	

Table 3

Question 3: Please circle the intramural sports you want to play (same list as question No. 2).
The following sports were selected most often by the respondents:

	Men		Women		Total		O
	Yes N ₁	No %	Yes N ₂	No %	Yes N	No %	
Archery	66	10.8	41	7.8	107	9.2	369
Badminton	49	8.0	76	14.4	126	10.9	683
Basketball	161	26.2	611	11.5	223	19.2	664
Bowling	130	21.2	92	17.4	225	19.4	567
Canoe Races	77	12.5	65	12.3	142	12.3	565
Golf	92	15.0	36	6.8	128	11.0	648
Handball							662
Racketball	124	20.2	41	7.8	166	14.3	624
Squash							53.8
Ice Hockey	86	14.0	24	4.5	112	9.7	678
Soccer	104	16.9	26	4.9	130	11.2	58.5
Softball	174	28.3	87	16.4	264	22.8	660
Swimming	63	10.3	70	13.2	133	11.5	526
Table Tennis	82	13.4	70	13.2	153	13.2	657
Tennis	104	16.9	77	14.6	182	15.7	637
Touch Football	176	28.7	78	14.7	258	22.3	508
Track	67	10.9	40	7.6	108	9.3	532
Volleyball	163	26.5	128	24.2	292	25.2	682
Water Polo	61	9.9	27	5.1	88	7.6	498
Waterslide							702
Water Polo	61	9.9	50	9.5	111	9.6	679
							58.6

Table 4

Question: Circle most recent year of intramural participation.

	Men		Women		Total		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	O N
1974-75	360	58.6	217	41.0	579	50.0	323
1973-74	70	11.4	89	16.8	164	14.2	
1972-73	29	4.7	24	4.5	56	4.8	
1971-72	16	2.6	21	4.0	37	3.2	

Table 5

Question: Circle current frequency of intramural participation (number of times per week in any intramural sport).

	Men		Women		Total		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	O N
1	217	35.3	154	29.1	374	32.3	502
2	120	19.5	68	12.9	190	16.4	
3	44	8.3	14	2.6	58	5.0	
4	10	1.6	6	1.1	16	1.4	
5	6	1.0	4	0.8	13	1.1	
6	3	0.5	0	0	3	0.2	
7	0	0	3	0.6	3		

Table 6

Question: Circle reason (s) for not taking part (or not more participation) in intramural sports.

	Men		Women		Total		O
	Yes N ₁	No N ₁	Yes N ₂	No N ₂	Yes N	No N	
Conflicts with work	152	358	109	347	264	707	188
Conflicts with dorm meal	31	479	17	439	49	922	79.5
Conflicts with class/study	351	159	319	137	674	58.2	229
Distance from residence	76	434	61	395	137	11.8	834
Transportation problem	38	472	42	414	80	6.9	891
Noone to participate with	87	423	94	362	182	15.7	789
Playing fields in poor condition	25	485	2	454	27	2.3	944
Not interested	109	400	127	329	236	20.4	734
							63.3

Table 7

Question: Have you participated in organized co-rec (men and women participating together) intramural sports?

Responses:	Men		Women		Total		O
	N ₁	%	N ₂	%	N	%	
Yes	209	34.0	196	37.1	408	35.2	46
No, would like to	242	39.4	172	32.5	420	36.2	
No interest	117	19.0	121	22.9	240	20.7	

Table 8

Question: Please circle how you obtain intramural sports information.

	Men		Women		Total		O
	Yes N ₁ %	No N ₁ %	Yes N ₂ %	No N ₂ %	Yes N %	No N %	
ISU Daily	321 52.3	224 36.5	260 49.1	202 38.2	589 50.8	428 36.9	142
Intramural	83 13.5	463 75.4	40 7.6	422 79.8	123 10.6	896 77.3	
Handbook							
Intramural	251 40.9	295 48.0	127 24.0	335 63.3	379 32.7	640 55.2	
Manager							
Intramural	95 15.5	451 73.5	49 9.3	413 78.1	145 12.5	874 75.4	
Office							
Posters	170 27.7	376 61.2	164 31.0	298 56.3	335 28.9	684 59.0	
Other	140 22.8	404 65.8	169 31.9	292 55.2	310 26.8	706 60.9	

Table 9

Question: How should intramural sports be financed at Iowa State?

	Men		Women		Total		O
	Yes N ₁ %	No N ₁ %	Yes N ₂ %	No N ₂ %	Yes N %	No N %	
P.E. Budget	275 44.8	277 45.1	226 42.7	242 45.8	502 43.3	527 45.5	130
Student IM fee	116 18.9	436 71.0	87 16.5	381 72.0	203 17.5	826 71.3	
Both of above	252 41.0	300 48.9	195 36.9	273 51.6	454 39.2	575 49.6	
sources							
Other					65 5.6		

Section III - Related Sports Interests

Table 10

Question: Do you feel that intercollegiate sports programs for men at ISU are:

- (1) an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally
- (2) out of touch with contemporary student values
- (3) irrelevant to the proper functioning of the university

Responses:

	Men		Women		Total	
	Yes N ₁ %	No N ₁ %	Yes N ₂ %	No N ₂ %	Yes N %	No N %
No. 1	436 71.0	118 19.2	379 71.6	73 13.8	822 70.9	194 16.7
No. 2	94 15.3	460 74.9	66 12.5	386 73.0	163 14.1	854 73.7
No. 3	78 12.7	476 77.5	50 9.5	402 76.0	129 11.1	888 76.6
						143 N

Table 11

Question: Do you feel that intercollegiate sports programs for women at ISU are:

- (1) an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally
- (2) out of touch with contemporary student values
- (3) irrelevant to the proper functioning of the university

Responses:

	Men		Women		Total	
	Yes N ₁ %	No N ₁ %	Yes N ₂ %	No N ₂ %	Yes N %	No N %
No. 1	346 56.4	151 24.6	369 69.8	107 20.2	718 61.9	264 22.8
No. 2	112 18.2	385 62.7	73 13.8	403 76.2	189 16.3	793 68.4
No. 3	92 15.0	405 66.0	47 8.9	429 81.1	139 12.0	843 72.7
						177 N

Table 12

Question: For which of the following ISU Intercollegiate Sports do you purchase tickets?
Responses:

	Men		Women		Total		O N		
	Yes N ₁ %	No N ₁ %	Yes N ₂ %	No N ₂ %	Yes N %	No N %			
Football	429	69.9	107	17.4	379	71.6	204	17.6	139
Basketball	277	45.1	259	42.2	213	40.3	261	49.3	
Wrestling	132	21.5	404	65.8	70	13.2	404	76.4	
Swimming	12	2.0	524	85.3	13	2.5	461	87.1	
Gymnastics	49	8.0	487	79.3	88	16.6	386	73.0	
Baseball	29	4.7	507	82.6	22	4.2	452	85.4	
Ice Hockey (club)	121	19.7	414	67.4	68	12.9	406	76.7	

Table 13

Question: Do you have sports (intramural, intercollegiate, professional) involvement in any or all of the following: (Please rate each as follows: 1 - not at all; 2 - rarely; 3 - at least one hour per week; 4 - generally 5 hours per week or more)

- (1) watching sports on television
(2) listen to sports on the radio
(3) read about sports in newspapers
(4) read regularly sports oriented magazines

Rating:	0		1		2		3		4	
	(no response) N %	N %	N %	N %	N %	N %	N %	N %	N %	N %
No. 1	47	7.7	35	5.7	92	15.0	258	42.0	182	29.6
No. 2	59	9.6	151	24.6	257	41.9	118	19.2	29	4.7
No. 3	48	7.8	41	6.7	111	18.1	250	40.7	164	26.7
No. 4	62	10.1	133	21.7	200	32.6	161	26.2	58	9.5

DISCUSSION

The data concerning Intramural Sports indicated some very interesting results. Table 1 indicates that a very high age of the students surveyed either participate (or want to participate) in the intramural program (85.4%). This investigator expected a high percentage as the Intramural Program at Iowa State involved 64% of the male students and 55% of the female students in 1973-74. The survey, however, reflects more participation than we recorded last year.

Table 2 reflects the responses of respondents indicating which IM sports they have played. It was interesting that the most commonly indicated sports were team sports (basketball, touch football, softball, volleyball, ice hockey, water polo) which is apparently contradictory to the apparent shift in interests to carry-over leisure time sports. However, Table 3 concerns sports that students want to play and in this section more of the leisure time sports (tennis, canoeing, badminton, golf, handball/racquetball/squash, swimming, table tennis) were selected while some team sports (basketball, touch football, softball, volleyball) decreased. This general pattern was true for both the male and female respondents.

Tables 4 and 5 dealt with most recent year of intramural participation and frequency of intramural participation respectively. Fifty percent of all students surveyed indicated that they had participated in 1974-75. More male students (58.6%) indicated they participated this year when compared to females (41.0%). A large number of students (323) did not respond to this question. These data indicate

at our participants ,articipate regularly on an annual basis. Frequency of intramural participation (Table 5) indicated that most respondents participated once per week (32.3%) while increasing to two participations per week decreased the percentage by approximately one-half (16.4%). This proved to be true with both the males and females. It can be inferred that most participants will participate in only one intramural sport at any one given time as most teams play one game per week in preliminary play and in the early rounds of play-offs. A large number of respondents (502) did not respond to this question.

Table 6 summarizes the responses to probably the most important question on the survey--reason(s) for not taking part (or not more participation) in intramural sports. The major reason cited for not participating (or less participation) was conflict with class or study (58.2%). This could be explained by the high quality student attending Iowa State and also the stress on science and technology programs which put heavy demands upon students. Also, a previous ISU Intramural survey (3) indicated that late afternoon classes conflicted with late afternoon intramural sports scheduling. The second major conflict with intramural participation was with work (22.8%). Many students work part-time to meet their educational expenses and prime work hours would be late afternoon and early evening hours which would limit intramural participation opportunities. The third highest conflict with participation was not interested (20.4%) which means these respondents simply did not desire either to participate or increase participation. Other conflicts with participation were no one to

participate with (15.7%), distance from residence (11.8%), transportation problems (6.9%), conflict with dorm meal (4.2%), and playing fields in poor condition (2.3%). The analyses for males and females indicated the same order of conflicts as was reflected in the total breakdown.

Participation in co-recreational sports (males participating with females) is summarized in Table 7. Most respondents indicated that they had participated (35.2%) or would like to participate (36.2%) in co-rec sports. A larger percentage of women participated (37.1%) in co-rec sports than the men (34.0%) but more men (39.4%) indicated that they would like to participate in this type of competition compared to the women (32.5%). This item on co-rec sports backs up our participation records which show co-rec participation increasing faster than other segments of the intramural program.

Another question the author was specifically very interested in concerned how students obtained intramural sports information which is presented in Table 8. As expected, the Iowa State Daily (student newspaper) was the number one source of information selected by the respondents (50.8%). Our McDonald's Intramural Page (2) appears on a weekly basis in the Daily and is the main thrust in intramural publicity. Intramural Managers also was indicated as a source of information by a large number of respondents (32.7%), followed closely by posters (28.9%), other (26.8%), Intramural Office (12.5%), and Intramural Handbook (10.6%). The posters are blow-ups of the McDonald's Page that are posted around campus. The response to the intramural managers was surprising as this investigator felt that this phase of our efforts was not that effective.

The "other" category would primarily be word-of-mouth communication among students. The apparent low use of the Intramural Handbook will necessitate a re-evaluation of our efforts in that regard.

Data on financing of intramural sports at Iowa State is presented in Table 9. These data indicate that physical education budget (43.3%) and combined funding from physical education budget plus student intramural fee (39.2%) were identified most often. Funding by student activity fee only was selected by few respondents (17.5%). The men and women responded in the same pattern on this item. The most common other sources written in were athletic fees, athletic gate receipts, and intramural participation fees.

This part of the discussion concerns section three of the questionnaire which asked questions concerning related sports interests. The first two questions dealt with intercollegiate athletic programs for men and women respectively at Iowa State. The same question was asked in each case, but concerning men's sports (Table 10) and women's sports (Table 11). Each question had the same three sub-parts directed toward the respondents feeling toward intercollegiate athletics. The question concerning men's athletics indicated that most respondents (70.9%) felt that this program was an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally. Only 14.1% of the respondents felt that men's athletics were out of touch with contemporary student values and 11.1% felt the program was irrelevant to the proper functioning of the university. The male and female respondents essentially responded in the same manner on all three items. The total response indicates a

rather strong endorsement of approval for the men's intercollegiate athletic program. The response to this same question concerning women's athletics elicited the same overall response on the three items. However, the percentage of respondents that felt the women's program was an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally, decreased slightly (61.9%) from the same item concerning men's athletics (70.9%). This decrease can be explained by looking at the breakdown of responses of men and women to the item. Only 56.4% of the men responded affirmatively to this item compared to 69.8% of the women. This indicates that some men feel, for some reason, that women's athletics are less important to the functioning of the university than men's athletics. The next two items on this same question show a similar pattern of more men indicating disapproval of women's athletics than the women exhibited.

The next question involved summarizing fan support of the various intercollegiate sports which is summarized in Table 12. Fan support was defined as purchasing a ticket for a particular sport. As expected, intercollegiate football was the most popular sport with all respondents (70.4%). Other popular sports were basketball (42.9%), wrestling (17.8%), ice hockey club (16.0%) and gymnastics (12.0%). The breakdown for men and women on this question were similar to that of the men except that gymnastics was more popular than wrestling and ice hockey. These data indicate that a large proportion of the respondents in this study, regardless of sex, are very supportive of intercollegiate athletic programs as well as the intramural sports program.

The last item on the questionnaire concerned other involvements in following sports of any type is summarized in Table 13. Watching sports on television was indicated by 61.1% (40.7% - 1 hour per week, 20.4% - 5 hours or more per week) of the respondents. Following sports in the newspapers was indicated by 58.1% (37.0% - 1 hour per week, 21.1% - 5 hours or more per week) of the respondents while 26.9% (19.7% - 1 hour per week, 7.2% - 5 hours or more per week) read sports oriented magazines regularly. Listening to sports coverage or sports oriented radio broadcasts was indicated by 21.0% (17.3% - 1 hour per week, 3.7% - 5 hours or more per week) of the respondents. The breakdown of responses for men and women were similar except more men followed sports in the newspapers and magazines than did the women.

To summarize the related sports interest section, it is apparent that the students surveyed at Iowa State have involvement in sports on a number of different levels. They are involved directly as participants in the intramural sports program. They also support intercollegiate sports through the purchasing of tickets as well as following all levels of sports on television, newspapers, magazines and on the radio. This indicates that the Iowa State student participating in intramurals has additional sports interests, especially with intercollegiate sports, and these interests should be recognized and dealt with accordingly.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Most students surveyed in the study either participated in intramurals or wanted to participate in the program.

2. Team sports were most often selected as sports the respondents had participated in, but they indicated more leisure-time recreational sports when they indicated sports they wanted to play.

3. Most respondents participate in the intramural program on an annual basis and once per week.

4. The major reasons for not participating in intramurals (or not more participation) were conflicts with class or study and conflicts with work.

5. Most students surveyed either participated or wanted to participate in co-rec sports.

6. Intramural sports information was obtained by the respondents primarily from the Iowa State Daily (student newspaper), intramural managers, posters and by word-of-mouth communication.

7. Sources of financial support for intramurals were physical education budgets and a combination of student fees and the physical education budget.

8. Students participating in intramurals were found to also be supportive of intercollegiate athletics as well as having other levels of sport involvements.

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Your cooperation is requested for this survey concerning the Iowa State University Intramural Sports Program. The results will be used to help improve the program.

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Year in School:

Frosh	1
Soph	2
Jr	3
Sr	4
Grad	5

2. Sex:

Male	1
Female	2

3. Marital Status:

Single	1
Married	2

4. College in which you are enrolled:

Agriculture	1
Education	2
Engineering	3
Home Economics	4
Science and Humanities	5
Veterinary Medicine	6
Graduate	7

5. Living Accomodations:

Dormitory	1
Fraternity	2
Sorority	3
Married Housing	4
Off-Campus	5

II. INTRAMURAL SPORTS

1. Have you ever participated in organized (~~team/individual-dual~~) intramural sports?

Yes _____ No, would like to _____ No interest _____

Please circle the intramural sports you have played:

archery	yes	no
badminton	yes	no
basketball/freethrows	yes	no
battle-of-beef	yes	no
bowling	yes	no
broomball	yes	no
canoe races	yes	no
cyclone 500	yes	no
golf	yes	no
handball/racketball/squash	yes	no
ice hockey	yes	no
soccer	yes	no
softball	yes	no
swimming	yes	no
table tennis	yes	no
tennis	yes	no
touch football	yes	no
track	yes	no
trap shoot	yes	no
turkey trot	yes	no
volleyball	yes	no
water polo	yes	no
water polo, innertube	yes	no
wrestling	yes	no

Please circle the intramural sports you want to play:

archery	yes	no
badminton	yes	no
basketball/freethrows	yes	no
battle-of-beef	yes	no
bowling	yes	no
broomball	yes	no
canoe races	yes	no
cyclone 500	yes	no
golf	yes	no
handball/racketball/squash	yes	no
ice hockey	yes	no
soccer	yes	no
softball	yes	no
swimming	yes	no
table tennis	yes	no
tennis	yes	no
touch football	yes	no
track	yes	no
trap shoot	yes	no
turkey trot	yes	no
volleyball	yes	no
water polo	yes	no
water polo, innertube	yes	no
wrestling	yes	no
other	yes	no
other	yes	no

((over))

2. Circle most recent year of any intramural participation:
- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1974-75 | 1 |
| 1973-74 | 2 |
| 1972-73 | 3 |
| 1971-72 | 4 |
3. Circle current frequency of intramural participation (number of times per week in any intramural sport):
- 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 more _____
4. Circle reason(s) for not taking part (or not more participation) in intramural sports:
- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|
| Conflicts with work | Yes | No |
| Conflicts with dormitory meal | Yes | No |
| Conflicts with class or study | Yes | No |
| Distance from residence | Yes | No |
| Transportation problem | Yes | No |
| No one to participate with | Yes | No |
| Playing fields in poor condition | Yes | No |
| Not interested | Yes | No |
5. Have you participated in organized co-rec (men and women participating together) intramural sports:
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Yes | 1 |
| No, would like to | 2 |
| No interest | 3 |
6. Please circle how you obtain intramural sports information:
- | | | |
|---------------------|-----|----|
| ISU Daily | Yes | No |
| Intramural Handbook | Yes | No |
| Intramural Manager | Yes | No |
| Intramural Office | Yes | No |
| Posters | Yes | No |
| Other | Yes | No |
7. How should intramural sports be financed at Iowa State?
- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----|
| Physical Education Budget | Yes | No |
| Student Intramural Fee | Yes | No |
| Both of above sources | Yes | No |
| Other (specify) _____ | | |

III. RELATED SPORTS INTERESTS

1. Do you feel that intercollegiate sports programs for men at ISU are:
- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally | Yes | No |
| out of touch with contemporary student values | Yes | No |
| irrelevant to the proper functioning of the university | Yes | No |
2. Do you feel that intercollegiate sports programs for women at ISU are:
- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| an integral part of the university, educationally and recreationally | Yes | No |
| out of touch with contemporary student values | Yes | No |
| irrelevant to the proper functioning of the university | Yes | No |
3. For which of the following ISU Intercollegiate Sports do you purchase tickets?
- | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|----|---------------|-----|----|
| football | Yes | No | gymnastics | Yes | No |
| basketball | Yes | No | baseball | Yes | No |
| wrestling | Yes | No | hockey (club) | Yes | No |
| swimming | Yes | No | | | |
4. Do you have sports (intramural, intercollegiate, professional) involvement in any or all of the following: (please rate each as follows: 1 - not at all; 2 - rarely; 3 - at least one hour per week; 4 - generally 5 hrs/week or more)
- | | |
|--|-------|
| watching sporting events on television | _____ |
| listen to sports on the radio | _____ |
| read about sports in newspapers | _____ |
| read regularly sports oriented magazines | _____ |